

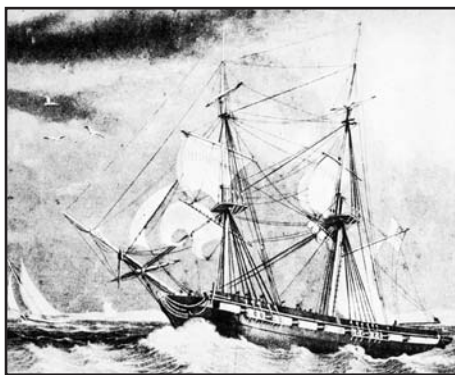
175 Years of Excellence

Happy 175th Birthday, NAVOCEANO!

Centuries ago, explorers braved the open seas with only the stars and their faith to guide them. Soon, these explorers and their benefactors realized the great importance of the world's oceans, measuring a nation's wealth by its commercial shipping and its strength by the size of its navy.

Still, the unanswered questions of what conditions might be encountered on a voyage or what to expect upon landfall made seafaring extremely dangerous.

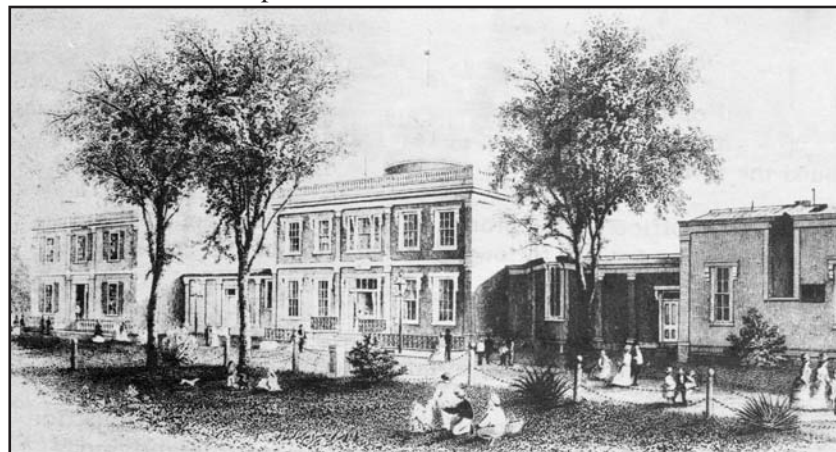
The early navigators, equipped with sparse information about prevailing winds and currents, water depths, coastal landmarks or the likelihood of fog and other adverse weather conditions, needed more thorough and accurate records for safe sailing. Gradually a few commercial agencies began selling navigational charts, but they were often out of date, inaccurate and incomplete.



One of the first surveys for the Depot of Charts and Instruments was conducted aboard U.S. Brig Porpoise.

On Dec. 6, 1830, the U.S. Navy established the Depot of Charts and Instruments (from which NAVOCEANO evolved) to maintain a supply of navigational instruments and nautical charts for issue to naval vessels. It soon became apparent that the Depot would be unable to obtain and maintain an adequate supply of the latest data unless it undertook production of charts from its own surveys.

In 1837, the first survey sponsored by See **175th**, page 3.



The Depot of Charts and Instruments was established on December 6, 1830 at the Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C.

Naval Oceanographic Office *Ocean Frontier*

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Online Products

NAVO Releases Post-Katrina Satellite Imagery

NAVOCEANO released satellite imagery of affected areas as well as other products to the public shortly after Katrina made landfall.

NAVOCEANO has supplied several post-Hurricane Katrina oceanographic products to military operating along the Mississippi Gulf Coast and New Orleans since the storm made landfall.

"Sharing information is vital right now," said CAPT Andrew Brown, NAVOCEANO commanding officer. "NAVOCEANO is committed to providing people in the community with any resources we have that may be helpful to them."

Imagery is still available by visiting <https://www.navo.navy.mil> and clicking on Hurricane Katrina Products.

Other products including wave heights and directions and sea surface temperatures are available by clicking on Online Products and following the prompts.

A Note From the Editor

You may notice this edition of the *Ocean Frontier* covers three months. Because of Katrina's impact, original newsletter deadlines were postponed and the October/November issue was combined with December. The newsletter will continue its bimonthly publication dates in January.

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Oct/Nov/Dec 2005



Celebrating 175 Years of

NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHY

From the Commanding Officer

Brown Hits the Ground Running as His Tour as CO Begins

This is my first article for the Ocean Frontier as your Commanding Officer—and what a way to start off! It has indeed been an eventful time since Captain Jeff Best and I turned over back in early August—a time marked by great sorrow and distress and at the same time great joy and hope. The passage and aftermath of Hurricane Katrina left an indelible mark on the Mississippi/Louisiana/Alabama Gulf Coast and left a deep imprint on each of us. We will forever be linked by the storm's impact on our lives and how we pulled together to overcome all the obstacles Katrina left in her wake.

We are all painfully aware of the destructive magnitude of this storm. The devastation has affected us all in a myriad of ways. We suffered a terrible loss of a valued and respected shipmate, Mr. Sam Tart, and his beloved son. Together, we mourned their passing from this life and will continue to grieve their loss as time passes. Many of us lost our homes and possessions. All of us have had our lives disrupted. Whether you lost a few shingles or trees, or an entire home with all of your belongings—the collective

workforce suffered a blow that in some cases would signal the downward spiral of many an organization. That is most certainly NOT the case with the Naval Oceanographic Office.

The way in which you have individually and collectively responded to this most extraordinary of crises is truly amazing and inspiring. You've answered the call in innumerable ways to ease the plight of so many others in need. From individual acts of kindness and assistance to your collective efforts in salvaging coworkers' belongings from a demolished house and providing food, clothing and shelter to those in need—you have left a legacy of giving and good will.

Equally inspiring to me is that throughout this time of extraordinary and nonroutine action in providing for the welfare of your fellow workers and citizens, you haven't skipped a beat in carrying out NAVOCEANO's mission of providing essential oceanographic products to the warfighting forces of our great nation. Whether at sea or here at NAVOCEANO, in the midst of great personal struggle and loss, you main-

tained your professionalism and dedication to getting the job done and done well.

Through any great crisis or deep trauma, the measure of your mettle is how you rebound and rebuild toward a better future. You've done that in spades. Because of that, your legacy will be one of hope and optimism rather than one of sadness and despair. Each of you have contributed in your way to a better tomorrow for yourselves, your colleagues and your fellow citizens of the Gulf Coast. I am very proud of you, and I am extremely proud to be your Commanding Officer.



CAPT Andrew Brown III

And the Question Goes to...

A-76 Is Placed on Hold; Katrina/SHS Leave Policy Explained

Editor's Note: "And the Question Goes to..." will be a recurring column with 2-3 questions submitted by employees, answered by those most qualified to respond and approved by the commanding officer.

Q: When is the A-76 study likely to restart?

A-76 Coordinator Mike Hallal: Immediately after Hurricane Katrina, the NAVOCEANO A-76 study was placed in a hold status. At that time, Fleet Forces Command stated that in six months, the topic of A-76 at NAVOCEANO would be revisited to determine what to do with regard to the study. That would be in the February 2006 time frame.

Q: What is our policy regarding granting leave and Stennis Helping Stennis (SHS) versus meeting mission requirements, including survey travel, as people work to recover from Katrina?

Comptroller Don Lancaster: The XO promulgated the following policy in October: Department Heads are authorized to approve 8-16 hours of leave per week to perform SHS functions. In order to make this leave authorized, personnel must check-in with the SHS Office. If you are not checked-in, then your status is considered unauthorized and will be turned over to the Inspector General for action. Volunteers actually remain on regular time but charge those hours to the Katrina Volunteer Job Order

Number CEKTV.

Human Resources: The decision to continue the policy of granting excused absences for NAVOCEANO employees to help clean up other employee's private property during work hours and receive pay remains at the XO/CO level. Use of annual leave, sick leave or leave without pay is approved by the employee's supervisor on a case-by-case basis.

If you have a question that you would like to have answered in a clear, concise manner, fax it to 228-688-4920. Questions will be researched and responded to in the order in which they were received. Names of submitters will be withheld.

Awards, continued.

Stephen Howell
Ernest Wiley
Michael Wild

25 Years

Theresa Anoskey
Stephen Cumbee
Tammy Fillingame
Richard Sandy
Kevin Thrash
Stephan Walton

30 Years

Terry Shelby

40 Years

Raymond Szymankiewicz

*Mr. Ross was inadvertently omitted from the August listing.

Military Outstanding
Volunteer Service Medal
AGC(SW/AW) Jason P.

Thompson

Survey Excellence Awards
(January-June 2005)

Carlos Alonso
David J. Bates
William M. Becker
Peter C. Brockert
Danielle A. Bryant
Gary D. Cantrell
James A. Cape
Louis V. Cosse

Steven D. Crossland
John R. Dubberley
James C. Duncan
Kelly Fougrousse
Ronald D. Guyton
Timothy V. Jordan
Jeffrey L. Kerling
Jeffrey C. King
Pierre D. Leaks
Kristy M. Lossett
Thomas D. Maness
Gordon E. Marsh

Donald Mayeux
Rebecca E. McGuire
Roger M. Meadows
Gary R. Miller
Lori L. Millonzi
Jenny Moestikawati
Allison S. Moreland
Melissa Odom
Garry Owen
Marc G. Remy
R. Lane Reynolds
Donald Shiel
David A. Somers
John M. Staly
Bruce Stier
Henry W. Stout
Tony D. Taylor
William Thompson
Michael S. Toner
Alvin E. Turner
Robert J. Wahl
Richard Walker
R. Kelly Wallace
Carl J. Williams

Civilians of the Quarter

First Civilians of the Quarter Announced

NAVOCEANO announced its first civilians of the quarter in August. The two were formally awarded at the All Hands held on 25 Aug.

Kevin Greenlee, a 19-year employee of NAVOCEANO, is a physical scientist specializing in computer systems for the Logistics and Management Services Department (N1).

He was awarded for his extensive preparation and work he performed during NAVOCEANO's transition from a prior computer network to the new Navy

Martin Doody has been employed at NAVOCEANO since 1998 and is a team leader for the Customer Support and Requirements Division's Warfighter Response Group.

He won the award in the senior-grade category for distinctive service in the group, which responds to requests from Department of Defense warfighters for relevant oceanographic data and other information.

"Their accomplishments in the areas of enhancing the NAVOCEANO mission and improving quality of life were exceptional," said CAPT Andy Brown. "It was an extremely competitive field of candidates, all having significant and noteworthy achievements."



Martin Doody



Kevin Greenlee

Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI). In the process, he filled key roles in system administration, technical liaison work, applications identification and other areas.

Upcoming Events

Federal Holidays

-Christmas will be observed on Mon., 26 December.
-New Year's Day will be observed on Mon., 2 January.
-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday will be observed on Mon., 16 January.

Events

Matthew Fontaine Maury's 200th birthday is Sat., 14 January and will be celebrated with cake and punch on Thurs., 12 January in the Maury Library at 1300. All contractors, civilians and military are invited to attend.

Sailor of the Quarter

Dorrough Named Quarter's Top Sailor

M2 Daniel E. Dorrough of Boat Operations was named NAVO's sailor of the 2nd quarter.

Dorrough was selected for his outstanding performance of duty while serving as maintenance man, hazardous materials coordinator and small boat coxswain at Boat Operations.

As a result of his versatility and eagerness to serve, Dorrough saved the Navy more than \$7,000 in contract maintenance costs by personally refurbishing and providing carpentry work on two NAVO vessels.

Dorrough is the son of Deanna and Carl Hill of Arnold, Mo. He currently resides in Gulfport.



BM2 Daniel Dorrough

Awards, continued.

Jan Lewis	Tiffany Cassidy	Chris Coward	Marc Jarrett
Eloise Marquette	Terry Dean	Stephen C. Cumbee	Robert Joyce
Bonnie Martino	Rodney Dunn	Mike Cuthbertson	Ashok Kalra
Melvin McIver	John Dupuis	Christy Davis	William Marquez
Robert Moshier	Mandy Emmer	Scott Davis	Rebecca Martinolich
Art Najjar	Steve Farr	Shirley Dorsey	Melvin McIver
Carol North	Anthony Flowers	Neil Duffin	Gary Miller
Gerald Oberlies	Devin Goodwin	Don Ecuyer	Giovanni Morris
Joan Olsen	Kevin Greenlee	Jerry Gathof	Arthur Najjar
Don Parker	David Hasenkampf	LT Jason Gipson	Donald Newcomb
James Pastor	Howard Jack	Kenneth Grembowicz	James Newman
Debbie Price	John James	Peggy Haeger	Gerald Oberlies
Marie Reynolds	Chandler Johnson	James Hammack	Charles O'Neill
Reid Sanford	Bob Knesel	Steven Harrison	Peter Orlin
Bill Searcy	Marjorie Lamb	John Hays	Cecil Pettway
Michael Smith	Ray Lenski	Nathan Hopper	David Richardson
Dick Stanford	Nakia McKay	Kelly Kearney	Raymond Sawyer
Bobby Wheatly	Iris Moore	Kimberly Kelly	Guy Seale
Mickey Williams	Steve Nosalik	Wesley Lewis	Susan Sebastian
E. J. Yoerger	Tracy Patman	LTJG Ramon Martinez	Bragg Sherrer
SMART SEARCH	Kelly Wood	Bryan Mensi	Michael Smith
Greg Bodet	Bill Armour	Roger Meredith	Mark Snyder
Martin Booda	Bob Clifton	Amanda McKee	David Somers
Bruce Bricker	Jerry Core	LCDR Graham Mimirriss	Bruce Stier
Annette Cambell	Billy Floyd	Marc Pinsel	Joseph Tamul, Jr.
Michael Carnes	Debbie Price	Greg Ruby	Tri Trinh
Ronnie Guyton	Karrie Shants	Bruce Rumish	Robert Wahl
Danny Illich	Rob Thornhill	Eric Singer	Randy White
Andrea Mask	Billy Wood	David Stremler	Clay Whittaker
Rick Myrick	Mike Killiam	Bobbie Thompson	Craig Wischkaemper
Kyle Rushing	George Sheridan	Rory Toon	
Leigh Schaumburg	Sarah Bounds	Leila Walker	
Jon Shepetis	Roger Cuevas		
Melvin Wagstaff	Desiree Davis	SNR Certification	
Jay Wallmark	Bill Hillery	Frederick Barter	
Kelly Wood	Barbara Lee	David Bates	
	Mark Boston	Marc Beddoe	
	Brandon Craft	Michael Bendzlowicz	
Ocean Science Mentoring Program	Shannon Curtis	Daniel Berkshire	
Glen Boyer	Carole Fowler	Donald Bourgeois	
Alvin Cajigas	Valerie Frazier	William Burnett	
Stan Harvey	Brady Furr	Claude Christopher	
Michael Jeffries	Eloise Marquette	Marian Clough	
Chandler Johnson	Anita Spencer	William Davidson	
Rebecca Lovingood	Horace Spencer	Pete Delanie	
Gabrielle Malley		Michael Diringer	
Calvin Martin	CNMOC Letters of Commendation	James Duke	
Andrea Meranto	Marc Beddoe	Terry Duvieilh	
Giovanni Morris	David Brazier	Naser El Abed	
Horace Spencer	Amy Brown	Steven Faber	
Kathryn Townsend	Robert Carter, Jr.	Adrienne Haeger	
	Dawn Cecil	Dale Hare	
	Marian Clough	Steve Harrison	
NMCI Transition Recognition	LTJG David Colbert	Beth Hester	
David Bates	Lanee Cooksey	Randall Hill	
Eric Bond		Kenneth Grembowicz	

In Our Community

Monterey, Calif., Offers Katrina Recovery Assistance to Bay St. Louis-Waveland

Close military and scientific ties between Navy oceanographic elements at Stennis Space Center (SSC) on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC) in Monterey, Calif., have led to an innovative partnership.

When the city of Monterey, Calif., heard of the devastation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, they took action to assist the towns of Bay St. Louis and Waveland, Miss. In a public resolution, the city of Monterey adopted the two Gulf Coast communities.

RDML Timothy McGee, commander of the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (CNMOC) at SSC and the parent command of FNMOC and NAVOCEANO, encouraged the adoption and applauded the civic leadership in Monterey.

Monterey is also home to the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School that was attended by many of the military officers of CNMOC and NAVOCEANO.

Within days of Hurricane Katrina's

landfall, the Monterey City Council passed a resolution in support of the two cities and launched a fundraising drive.

Noting strong Navy ties and other similarities between Monterey and the Bay-Waveland area, city leaders authorized the Monterey finance director to establish a donations fund to lend support.

Monterey has a population of about 30,000, as compared to the Bay-Waveland area with about 17,000 residents. However, the cities share many common traits such as strong environmental science programs, coastal location, tourism industries and strong, close-knit communities.

McGee expressed appreciation to the city of Monterey saying, "A dearer gift could not have come at a better time. This wonderful relationship allows us to set our sights on a bright and hopeful future."

For more information about the resolution or the city of Monterey, visit <http://www.monterey.org>.

175th, continued from page 12.

the Depot and led by Lieutenant Charles Wilkes resulted in four engraved charts published for use by the U.S. Navy.

LT Wilkes continued his surveying and gained fame as leader of the U.S. Exploring Expedition. The expedition ranged over the eastern Atlantic to Antarctica, the coasts of both Americas, and far into the west and southwest Pacific. It began the U.S. collection of world magnetic data and contributed substantially to hydrographic, meteorological, botanical and geological knowledge of the explored regions.

During the succeeding five years, 87 similar charts were published and issued from the results of surveys by Wilkes and his officers. These individual surveys, however, were limited in scope; the Depot needed a way to gather information quickly on a worldwide basis. Naval officer Matthew Fontaine Maury, who became known as "The Pathfinder of the Seas," supplied the answer to this dilemma.

More on Matthew F. Maury in the next edition of *Ocean Frontier*.
Editor's note: The Ocean Frontier will highlight 175th events and activities and historical facts, photos and stories in this column. If you have something you would like to contribute, contact Public Affairs.

News from NAVICE



Seated is then-Oceanographer of the Navy RADM Steven Tomaszeski, NOAA Administrator VADM Conrad Lautenbacher (Ret.) and Acting Director of Coast Guard Operations Policy CAPT James Hass. Standing is National/Naval Ice Center Chief Scientist Pablo Clemente-Colon, Director and Commanding Officer CAPT Paul Stewart and Deputy Director Sharolyn Young.

NAVICE Sees Renewed Support

Navy, NOAA and Coast Guard officials reaffirmed their support of the National/Naval Ice Center (NIC) in July by renewing a memorandum of understanding. NIC, an interagency office in Suitland, Md., uses satellite imagery to monitor ice movement and developments and provides analyses, products and services that aid navigation of U.S. assets in ice-infested waters. NIC data and products are used in meteorological and oceanographic models and forecasts that support NOAA, the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, NASA and commercial transportation and fishing fleets.

"The Center's high-quality strategic and tactical ice services support U.S. Navy units at sea and enhance our warfighting capabilities," said RADM Steven Tomaszeski, oceanographer of the Navy. "The synergy between the Navy, NOAA and U.S. Coast Guard provides safe navigation for military and commercial shipping, along sea lanes and the international science communities drive great benefit from the polar science and technology, ice analysis and ice-charting products."

After the Storm

‘Stennis Helping Stennis’ Crews Assist With Post-Katrina Work

When employees returned to work on 12 Sept., there were already relief resources in place to assist them with any help they needed.

One of those resources was Stennis Helping Stennis (SHS). The organization inquired about the status of employees’ homes and requested volunteers to help remove limbs from roofs, patch holes, tear down sheetrock and clear pathways through debris and other less exciting chores as well.



Jeff Smith took this photo of Roger Meadows as the two were working on the roof of Quent Burge’s home in Poplarville, Miss. Quent was TDY.

SHS was out in the communities in less than two days with equipment and volunteers hard at work.

The Navy-led volunteer effort has become instrumental in helping Stennis employees recover from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in the SHS campaign.

Stennis Space Center is home to about 1,700 Navy military, civilian and contract personnel, most with the CNMOC and NAVOCEANO.

The SHS campaign had three objectives: help hurricane victims who are Stennis employees to get back into their homes, assist the schools in the affected area and help people in the general community.

“We’ve been doing debris clearing, tree removal,” said Senior Chief Aerographer’s Mate Stephanie Haney, a Navy Reservist helping coordinate the

effort. In some of the places they removed debris to make way for FEMA trailers that will serve as temporary homes for hurricane victims.

About 300 Navy civilian and military employees, including 25 sailors on tem-



Michael Jeffries (left) had help with hurricane cleanup efforts from several FST members, including ENS Dave Colbert (right) and photographer LT Al Armstrong.



Conrad Curry (N5) removes debris from a Pearl River County home following Hurricane Katrina.

porary orders, have volunteered for the work. Stennis storm victims have signed a master list for people who need help, and a Navy/NASA team arranges the day’s tasking for each team.

LCDR John Simms, the program coordinator, said he probably has 20 to 25 Navy and NASA teams out every day. On average, a team does four or five jobs a day.

With 420 jobs in the queue, there is

plenty of work. And there is likely to be plenty of work for a while.

The effort is gradually changing to helping the general public as Stennis employees get off the list. Managers are working with a Navy or Stennis repre-

sentative in each community who helps identify needs in the particular community.

“They are working food distribution and water distribution and schools. [School recovery] is the main thing now,” Simms said.

The program evolved from the effort to find all Navy personnel and to help employees salvage their homes in the days immediately following the storm. Teams of volunteers, particularly sailors, visited people’s homes or home sites where homes were washed away to determine if the house was livable and find the person or family. Many of those sailors had volunteered for temporary orders to help with the recovery.

As everyone was located, the teams continued going into the communities to help employees salvage what they could, get damaged roofs covered, pick up debris and cut trees and limbs, particularly from rooftops. Because of the enormity of the storm—people still need help—the effort remained in place, and NASA employees have joined the effort.

NAVOCEANO’s Mark Null, original coordinator of the program, said NASA has been a key partner in the effort partly because NASA has been able to contribute tools such as chain saws that the Navy doesn’t have.

Awards

Navy Superior Civilian Service

Stephen Adamec Jr.
Mark Boston
Gisele Bradley
William Lingsch
Claudette Luther
Mark Null

Navy Meritorious Civilian Service

Keith Atkinson
Jason Batchelor
Daniel Braun
Lanee Cooksey
Houston Costolo
Rodney Dunn
Edward Elizondo
Steven Haeger
David Hasenkampf
Jon Michael Jones
Mary Jones
Robert Knesel
April Ladner
Ryan Lane
Kerry Legendre
Drew MacNaughton
James Newman
Kirsten Skipper
Bobbie Thompson

Navy Achievement Medal

BM2 Daniel Dorrough
LT Jason Gipson
LCDR Jimmy Horne Jr.
LTJG Heather Hornick
LCDR David R. Kuehn
LT Elizabeth Simmons
AGC Jason Thompson
LT Sean Yemm

Navy Commendation Medal

CDR Robert Cutting
CDR Vincent Giampaolo
CDR Van Gurley
CDR Todd Monroe
Major Ken Smith
CDR Monty Spearman
LCDR Christopher Sterbis
AG1 Travis Younce

On-The-Spot

John Albasini
Glennette Alford
Ben Andrews
Jason Batchelor

Nikki Beech
Wendy-Ann Blidgen
Mel Bledsoe
Jerry Bickham
Eric Bond
Martin Booda
David Brazier
Michael Brooking
Angie Broom
Frank Bub
Debbie Cagle
Richard Cagle
Alvin Cajigas
Michael Carnes
Justin Carreno
Cathy Carson
Steve Cash
Tiffany Cassidy
Michaele Cerf
Marian Clough
Craig Cobb
Jerry Core
Mike Cross
Scott Davis
Chris Dehaan
Bob Delgado
Chris Diamond
Russell Dobbyn
Shirley Dorsey
Neil Duffin
Christy Finch
Craig Fisher
Claudette Flynn
Devin Goodwin
Hallie Graves
Ken Grembowicz
Larry Grey
Catherine Griffon
Patty Harrison
Steven Harrison
Charles Hartfield
Kathy Hartfield
Beth Hester
Randy Hill
Judith Holder
Charles Horton
Betty Howell
Tim Howell
Danny Illich
Chris Jacobo
John James
Eileen Jones
Tracy Jordan
Craig Kelly
Rick Kelish
Scott Klingenger

Wade Ladner
Don Lady
GW Landrum
Harold Littles
Rebecca Lovingood
Doug MacCullagh
Ron Martin
Doug May
Bruce McKenzie
Laurraine McKenzie
Barbara McNeill
Diane Meadows
Stefan Miller
Jim Mitchell
Al Molnar
Dave Morgerson
Robert Mosier
Arthur Najjar
George Oliver
Dan Olszewski
Walt Osterman
Steve Panella
Susan Parnell
Marc Pinsel
Debbie Poffenberger
Debbie Price
Rick Price
Kevin Reynolds
Kyle Rushing
Lamar Russell
Peggy Schexnayder
Guy Seale
Karrie Shants
Bragg Sherrer
Jim Showalter
Dave Small
Dee Dee Smith
Maggie South
Horace Spencer
Paul Stephens
Eric Stock
Rick Swanson
Matt Thompson
Kristen Thornton
Amanda Tuminello
Sandy Vatter
Jimmy Villareal
Steve Walker
Scott Wallace
Guy Warner
Gary Watson
John Webb
Keith Willis
Wendy Wilz
Steve Wilson
Billy Wood

Ron Woodson
Walter Wormser
Jerry Worth
Bob Ziegler

Letter of Commendation

Ed Arthur
Kathy Bilbo
Tyler Browning
Tom Burke
Christi Cathcart
Eileen Cooke
Jan Garner
Kathy Keys
Beth Lecuyer
Scott McCarter
Mike Pope
Donald Ray Robinson
Paul Saunders
Pat Wilz
Michelle Woodward
Doug Cronin
Anita Bogan
Joycelyn Smith
Belinda Porter
Michelle Ransom
Jan Depner
BM2 Daniel Dorrough
BM2 David Pendley

Special Recognition

Josh Baker

Fair Winds and Following Seas

Mary (Brenda) Adams
Curtis Arleth
Gary Bloom
James Bowman
Cynthia Bruno
Danny Bryant
Roy Carver
Belinda Clark
Lydia Michelle Dailey
Aubrey (Skip) Derry
Lawanna Ducre
James Duncan
Mae Foster
Joseph Friemark
Morris Heinzen
Carol Herr
Randy Herr
Judith Holder
Billy Judge
Eugene Kelly

See Awards page 10.

NAVOCEANO News

CNMOC/NAVO’s All Hands Assures Stability, Assistance

A joint NAVOCEANO/CNMOC All Hands was held Sept. 13 to spread the word on how to deal with the devastation wreaked by Hurricane Katrina.

“The Navy’s got its eye on this. There are going to be folks taking care of you,” RDML Timothy McGee, commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command, assured military and civilian personnel.

McGee, along with NAVOCEANO Commanding Officer CAPT Andrew Brown and others, outlined emergency response programs involving temporary housing, immunizations, mental health counseling, hurricane cleanup and other areas.

Soon after the hurricane, a list of military and civilian personnel showed 200 people in the command either missing or unheard from. Within a matter of days, however, an intensive accountability pro-

gram concluded with all Navy military and civilian personnel at Stennis Space Center, Miss., either located or accounted for.

McGee said 428 NAVOCEANO families in southeast Louisiana and Mississippi were displaced from their homes by the storm.

Following the hurricane, 50 trailers were set up near NAVOCEANO and were awaiting electrical, water and sewage connection. Employees also signed up to help with moving and storage needs, storm debris cleanup, temporary housing, and transportation to and from SSC for personnel.

McGee said the Navy is appropriating funds to obtain permanent properties where Navy military and civilian personnel can live from six months to a year while they get back on their feet.

Steps were also been taken to deal with hurricane-related health threats. By

Sept. 13, more than 3,000 shots had been given at SSC for tetanus and hepatitis A.

However, storm victims and their families should also be leery of emotional effects from the hurricane. Related traumas could include nightmares, flashbacks and short tempers. Children may be particularly vulnerable to post-trauma stress from the storm.

“Don’t try to cover it up,” said SSC Employee Assistance Program coordinator Porter Pryor. “Talk about the issues and get them out in the open. You need to talk about what’s happened with your friends and your family.”

Brown assured attendees that their jobs were safe and the Navy was doing all it could for military, civilian and contractor personnel in rebuilding their lives.

“We are absolutely committed to helping our family move into the future,” Brown said.

Safety Matters

Survivors of Natural Disasters

From the National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

What can survivors of natural disasters do to reduce the risk of negative psychological consequences and to best recover from disaster stress?

- Protect: Find a safe haven that provides shelter, food and liquids, sanitation, privacy, and chances to sit quietly, relax, and sleep at least briefly.
- Direct: Begin setting and working on immediate personal and family priorities to enable you and your significant others to preserve or regain a sense of hope, purpose and self-esteem.
- Connect: Maintain or reestablish communication with family, peers and counselors in order to talk about your experiences. Take advantage of opportunities to "tell your story" and to be a listener to others as they tell theirs, so that you and they can release the stress a little bit at a time.
- Select: Identify key resources, such as FEMA, the Red Cross, the Salvation

Army or the local and state health departments, for clean-up, health, housing and basic emergency assistance.

Taking each day one at a time is essential in disaster's wake. Each day is a new opportunity to FILL-UP:

- Focus Inwardly** on what's most important to you and your family today;
- Look and Listen** to learn what you and your significant others are experiencing, so you'll remember what is important and let go of what's not;
- Understand Personally** what these experiences mean to you, so that you will feel able to go on with your life and even grow personally.

Costume Identities

Clockwise, from top left photo on page 7: (1) Insurance maladjuster Craig Cumbee receives 2nd place in the individual category from the Grim Reaper (also known as XO, CAPT John Cousins) and Biker Chick Executive Assistant Christine Jarrett. (2) Look closely to see that these pumpkin heads resemble the crew in the mailroom, Bonnie Frierson, Earline Hollins and Crystal Dorn, with Chuck Lane overseeing them all. (3) The Grim Reaper gets to know Marilyn Monroe, who also answers to Norma Jean or Norma Putman. (4) Costume judges, Doug Cronin, AGC Jason Thompson and Bobbie Thompson, find out from nerdy Sue Sebastian that parading a costume requires refreshments. (5) After losing several coworkers to retirement, Budget has dwindled down to a “skeleton crew” of Cindy Moss, Bridget Manuel, Melissa Jones, Comptroller and Skeleton Bride Don Lancaster, Sandy Carnley, Brenda Villalobos, Tanis Lowery, Josh Baker, Mandy Emmer and Andrew Sanders.

Focus on FST

Fleet Survey Team Boosts Post-Katrina Relief Efforts

Members of the Fleet Survey Team (FST) are accustomed to conducting shallow-water survey missions on short notice and under extreme circumstances. Several team members were in South Asia for emergency surveys after the December 2004 tsunami.

So, they were well equipped to handle a variety of responsibilities required of them in addition to their normal duties after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Mississippi and Louisiana Gulf coasts Aug. 29, 2005.

Collocated with NAVOCEANO at SSC, FST was tasked to act as liaison with military relief units stationed in the area, conducted search and rescue missions for personnel of NAVOCEANO, its parent command, and performed critical hydrographic surveys of affected waters.

Like many others in his command, FST's commanding officer, CDR Todd Monroe, lost his Bay St. Louis home and two vehicles in the hurricane. Yet he and

his team members continued to perform hurricane relief work in the face of their own tragedies.

FST initially became part of a post-hurricane accountability team. Several members traveled throughout south Mississippi and Louisiana, searching home sites of many of NAVOCEANO's 1,100 military, civilian and contractor personnel.

FST members also deployed to survey regional waters in efforts to locate and chart underway storm debris that could pose hazards to navigation and impede rescue and relief efforts by other military relief organizations.

Monroe said survey areas included the Intracoastal Waterway from the Pearl River to the NASA Michoud Assembly facility in eastern New Orleans, as well as portions of the Mississippi River.

Also surveyed was the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet, a 76-mile-long, deep-draft ship channel that accommodates vessels too large to fit through the New Orleans Industrial Canal Lock.

The surveys supported post-Katrina efforts by providing information about safe navigation for relief and commercial shipping assets.

In addition, FST personnel have acted as a post-hurricane liaison between NAVOCEANO and large numbers of Marines and Navy Seabees working at SSC and in local communities since the storm.

FST members have also been performing routine military tasks. They hold colors, a daily military ceremony of raising and lowering the flag, for NAVOCEANO. The command's illuminated flagpole was destroyed in the storm, and military protocol requires manual raising and lowering of the flag daily until lights can be reinstalled.

"The moral to the story is, not only have we carried out surveys that have been conducted by people who were hurricane victims themselves; we've also filled a lot of holes, doing jobs that ordinarily do not fall to the survey team," Monroe said.

Around SSC

Navy Families Move Into Temporary Homes

Navy families starting the recovery phase after Hurricane Katrina began moving into temporary housing at Stennis Space Center the week of Sept. 18.

After weeks of being separated due to hurricane evacuation and seeking safe haven in neighboring states, some Navy families are beginning to move back into the Mississippi area to start living together as a family again.

Housing directors in the Gulf Coast region are working with Task Force Navy Family to procure temporary and permanent housing for active duty, reserve, retired and Department of the Navy families. All possible avenues to get families into temporary and permanent homes have been pursued, including filling available on-base housing, receiving assistance from FEMA and using local realtors to help locate habit-

able homes.

Lora Serpas, wife of Armand Serpas who works at Stennis Space Center, and her two boys were glad to be back in Mississippi after spending several weeks in Clear Lake, Texas, with extended family members. “We are very appreciative that we have this. I don’t know where we’d be if we didn’t have this.”

Lora said she is very happy with the 30-foot travel trailer she and her family moved into, one of 50 travel trailers set up by FEMA in the newly-formed “Whispering Pines” subdivision at Stennis Space Center. “It’s our own little home. The kids love it. They think they are on a camping adventure,” she said.

Serpas and his wife have decided they



ENS Robert Seltzer, a reserve Supply Corps officer assigned to Task Force Navy Family, inspects one of the temporary homes for Navy family members displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The temporary housing at Stennis Space Center is provided by FEMA.

will build on higher ground and expect to be living in the FEMA travel trailer for several months.

News Reserve

NAVO Reserve Unit Holds Change of Command

NAVOINTEL Reserve Unit 0182 attached to NAVOCEANO held their change of command ceremony at Stennis Space Center on Saturday, 10 September.

Reservists staff NAVOCEANO positions in various offices on weekends.

The new reserve commanding officer is CDR Thomas Englehart. He replaces CDR Sam Sumwalt, who has served since September 2003.

Around NAVOCEANO

Updating the Lobby

NAVOCEANO has recently gained access to external facilities funds for use in updating the lobby in Building 1002.

The commanding officer welcomes suggestions on how to improve the lobby area.

All employees are asked to submit suggestions via interoffice mail. Place your suggestion with contact information (name, code and phone number) in the interoffice mail and route to Public Affairs (N1PA).

Sea Stories

Surveyors Find Hazards in the Local Waters

NAVOCEANO civilian surveyors delivered navigational charts of several areas along the Mississippi Gulf Coast that were drastically altered by Hurricane Katrina to local officials in October.

Two weeks after Hurricane Katrina made landfall in the area local surveyors began examining waterways. Following the coastline from Biloxi to Bay St. Louis and north through ship channels and canals, the group looked for hazards to navigation. These hazards included debris that could obstruct traffic in affected harbors and approaches and items that may impede access to bridges for repair. The U.S. Hwy. 90 bridges connecting Biloxi to Ocean Springs and Pass Christian to Bay St. Louis, each previously more than one mile long, were destroyed by Katrina.

Operating from 34-foot boats called hydrographic survey launches (HSLs), the team was the first of its kind on scene. Although HSLs are designed for shallow-water surveying and the surveyors are accustomed to operating under these conditions, they took extreme caution while performing their duties.

"You have no idea what's there," said Doug Cronin of the Hydrography Department. "You have to go extremely slow, sometimes with someone on the bow with a long stick in the water feeling for debris."

One reason great care was taken in safely completing the survey was the equipment used on board. Side-scan sonar uses sound to detect debris on the ocean floor in relatively shallow depths. Multibeam sonar is used to more accurately measure depth, which assists in the high-resolution mapping of an area. The team used both types of sonar to gather data, which were sent to the Mine Warfare Division, where the data were processed and turned into actual images.

Employees in the Mine Warfare Division are experienced in using imagery to detect hidden underwater dangers. Their findings were converted into usable navigational charts and delivered to leaders of coastal cities and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who will assist with the rebuilding of bridges.

"Bay St. Louis had traffic lights sticking out of the water—still attached to the bridge," said surveyor Neil Duffin of New Orleans, La. According to surveyors, several of the 47-foot sections of bridge in Bay St. Louis were picked up by tidal surge and placed directly north of pilings that once held them.

"I really don't think people who see it on the news have a true perspective of what it actually looks like," said surveyor Maggie South of Diamondhead, Miss. "It's difficult looking at the shoreline and not being able to recognize anything to get a point of reference."

Annual Halloween Costume Contest



Who are these people?

(For identities of your creepy coworkers, see page 8.)



For Your Benefit

Thrift Savings Program Hurricane Operations

By Cynthia Warner, NAVOCEANO Human Resources

All Thrift Savings Program (TSP) operations are continuing to function, notwithstanding Hurricane Katrina. The Northern Virginia data center was not affected, the TSP Web site is fully functional, and daily processing cycles have continued without disruption. Calls to the Thrift Line (1-877-968-3778) are being handled by call centers in western Maryland and southwest Virginia.

Www.tsp.gov remains the most efficient way to request transactions. If possible, complete your request through the Account Access portion of the Web site. Complete forms online and, then print them out. If you are requesting a loan, you can complete your application and receive your Loan Agreement online.

TSP has introduced a toll-free fax number, 1-866-817-5023. Speed up processing by following these procedures:

- Fax only one copy of your request: When faxing multiple forms, fax them separately.

- Do not fax instruction sheets or cover sheets. If you must use a cover sheet, place it behind the form.
- When submitting a Loan Agreement, do not fax your TSP-20 or TSP-U-20 (loan application).
- Do not fax forms printed in color.
- Use only black or dark blue ink and print clearly.

Mail all correspondence, forms, court orders or other documents to:

Thrift Savings Plan Service Office
P.O. Box 385021
Birmingham, AL 35238

In addition, TSP is receiving mail that has been forwarded from New Orleans by the U.S. Postal Service. The mail is being processed as it is received. If duplicate forms are received, that form will not be processed.

Loan payments should be mailed to the address on the TSP Loan Coupon. Transfers or rollovers of funds into the TSP should be mailed to the address on the Form TSP-60 or TSP-U-60 online.

Loans and withdrawals are being disbursed daily. Monthly payments have not been affected.

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has temporarily eased regulations on hardship withdrawals from TSP accounts for those affected by Hurricane Katrina. These regulations temporarily supercede regulations prohibiting TSP participants from requesting a financial hardship in-service withdrawal from their accounts if they have received one hardship withdrawal within the past six months.

Regulations also prohibit participants who obtain a financial hardship in-service withdrawal from contributing to the TSP for six months after the withdrawal is processed. The Board, however, will not extend this six-month suspension period if a participant's contributions have already been suspended due to a previous hardship distribution.

The regulations are retroactive until Oct. 1 and are valid through Dec. 31.

Around NAVOCEANO



USO Says Thanks

No, it wasn't Wayne Newton on the front lawn of NAVOCEANO, but it was the United Services Organization (USO).

After entertaining the troops in Gulfport with a variety show led by Mr. Newton in September, the USO heard about the efforts (and plights) of civilian and military employees at Stennis and wanted to visit.

Five members of the USO spent an October Monday handing out hundreds of care packages and goodies for all who stopped by. "We really just wanted to say thanks and hopefully raise some spirits," said Mary Moyer of the USO.